

**What is claimed is:**

1. A communications system for providing programming content through a communications network, the system comprising:

5           an interface for receiving, from a terminal, a request for recording selected programming content, the request being received through the communications network; and

          a server responsive to the request for copying the  
10 selected programming content during broadcast of the selected programming content through the communications network, a copy of the selected programming content being stored for providing the selected programming content through the communications network after broadcast thereof.

15

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the communications network includes a two-way multichannel delivery network.

20

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein the delivery network includes a cable TV network.

4. The system according to claim 3, wherein the cable TV network includes a hybrid fiber coaxial (HFC) cable  
25 network.

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the copy of the selected programming content is stored in a storage space associated with the terminal.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the selected programming content is selected using a program guide.

5

7. The system according to claim 1, wherein the selected programming content is selected by the system.

8. The system according to claim 7, wherein the  
10 selected programming content is selected based on preferences of a user at the terminal.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein data identifying the selected programming content which has been  
15 copied is provided to the terminal to facilitate access to the copy of the selected programming content.

10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the selected programming content is provided after broadcast  
20 thereof in a presentation manipulatable to perform at least one of rewinding, pausing and fast-forwarding on the presentation.

11. A communications system for providing  
25 programming content through a communications network to a plurality of terminals, the system comprising:

storage remote from the plurality of terminals, the storage having a plurality of storage spaces, which are associated with the plurality of terminals, respectively;

an interface for receiving, from a certain one of the plurality of terminals, a request for recording selected programming content, the request being received before the selected programming content is broadcast through the communications network; and

a server responsive to the request for storing a copy of the selected programming content in the storage space associated with the certain terminal.

12. The system according to claim 11, wherein the copy of the selected programming content is made when the selected programming content is broadcast.

13. The system according to claim 12, wherein the time at which the selected programming content is broadcast is determined according to a broadcast schedule.

14. The system according to claim 11, wherein the storage space associated with the certain terminal is identifiable within the storage based on an identifier of the certain terminal.

15. The system according to claim 11, wherein the selected programming content is selected using a program guide.

16. The system according to claim 11, wherein the selected programming content is selected by the system.

17. The system according to claim 16, wherein the selected programming content is selected based on preferences of a user at the certain terminal.

5           18. The system according to claim 11, wherein the selected programming content is provided based on the copy thereof in a presentation manipulatable to perform at least one of rewinding, pausing and fast-forwarding on the presentation.

10

19. The system according to claim 11, wherein the communications network includes a two-way multichannel delivery network.

15

20. The system according to claim 19, wherein the delivery network includes a cable TV network.

21. The system according to claim 20, wherein the cable TV network includes an HFC cable network.

20

22. A system for communicating with a plurality of terminals through a communications network, the system comprising:

25           storage remote from the plurality of terminals, the storage having a plurality of storage spaces, which are associated with the plurality of terminals, respectively;

          an interface for receiving, through the communications network, data concerning a channel to which a certain one of the plurality of terminals is tuned; and

a server for copying programming content during broadcast thereof on the channel to which the certain terminal is tuned, a copy of the programming content being stored in the storage space associated with the certain  
5 terminal.

23. The system according to claim 22, wherein a length of the copy of the programming content is predetermined.

10 24. The system according to claim 22, wherein the storage space associated with the certain terminal is identifiable within the storage based on an identifier of the certain terminal.

15 25. The system according to claim 22, wherein the communications network includes a two-way multichannel delivery network.

20 26. The system according to claim 25, wherein the delivery network includes a cable TV network.

27. The system according to claim 26, wherein the cable TV network includes an HFC cable network.

25 28. A method for use in a communications system for providing programming content through a communications network, the method comprising:

receiving, from a terminal, a request for recording selected programming content, the request being received through the communications network;

in response to the request, copying the selected  
5 programming content during broadcast of the selected programming content through the communications network; and  
storing a copy of the selected programming content for providing the selected programming content through the communications network after broadcast thereof.

10

29. The method according to claim 28, wherein the communications network includes a two-way multichannel delivery network.

15

30. The method according to claim 29, wherein the delivery network includes a cable TV network.

31. The method according to claim 30, wherein the cable TV network includes an HFC cable network.

20

32. The method according to claim 28, wherein the copy of the selected programming content is stored in a storage space associated with the terminal.

25

33. The method according to claim 28, wherein the selected programming content is selected using a program guide.

34. The method according to claim 28, wherein the selected programming content is selected by the system.

35. The method according to claim 34, wherein the  
5 selected programming content is selected based on preferences of a user at the terminal.

36. The method according to claim 28, wherein  
10 data identifying the selected programming content which has been copied is provided to the terminal to facilitate access to the copy of the selected programming content.

37. The method according to claim 28, wherein the  
15 selected programming content is provided after broadcast thereof in a presentation manipulatable to perform at least one of rewinding, pausing and fast-forwarding on the presentation.

38. A method for use in a communications system  
20 for providing programming content through a communications network to a plurality of terminals, the method comprising:  
providing storage remote from the plurality of  
terminals, the storage having a plurality of storage spaces,  
which are associated with the plurality of terminals,  
25 respectively;

receiving, from a certain one of the plurality of  
terminals, a request for recording selected programming  
content, the request being received before the selected

programming content is broadcast through the communications network; and

in response to the request, storing a copy of the selected programming content in the storage space associated  
5 with the certain terminal.

39. The method according to claim 38, wherein the copy of the selected programming content is made when the selected programming content is broadcast.  
10

40. The method according to claim 39, wherein the time at which the selected programming content is broadcast is determined according to a broadcast schedule.

15 41. The method according to claim 38, wherein the storage space associated with the certain terminal is identifiable within the storage based on an identifier of the certain terminal.

20 42. The method according to claim 38, wherein the selected programming content is selected using a program guide.

43. The method according to claim 38, wherein the selected programming content is selected by the system.

25 44. The method according to claim 43, wherein the selected programming content is selected based on preferences of a user at the certain terminal.



45. The method according to claim 38, wherein the selected programming content is provided based on the copy thereof in a presentation manipulatable to perform at least one of rewinding, pausing and fast-forwarding on the presentation.

46. The method according to claim 38, wherein the communications network includes a two-way multichannel delivery network.

10

47. The method according to claim 46, wherein the delivery network includes a cable TV network.

48. The method according to claim 47, wherein the cable TV network includes an HFC cable network.

49. A method for communicating with a plurality of terminals through a communications network, the method comprising:

20 providing storage remote from the plurality of terminals, the storage having a plurality of storage spaces, which are associated with the plurality of terminals, respectively;

receiving, through the communications network, data concerning a channel to which a certain one of the plurality of terminals is tuned;

25 copying programming content during broadcast thereof on the channel to which the certain terminal is tuned; and

storing a copy of the programming content in the storage space associated with the certain terminal.

50. The method according to claim 49, wherein a  
5 length of the copy of the programming content is predetermined.

51. The method according to claim 49, wherein the storage space associated with the certain terminal is  
10 identifiable within the storage based on an identifier of the certain terminal.

52. The method according to claim 49, wherein the communications network includes a two-way multichannel  
15 delivery network.

53. The method according to claim 52, wherein the delivery network includes a cable TV network.

20 54. The method according to claim 53, wherein the cable TV network includes an HFC cable network.